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: S H O C H I K U :  
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KABUKI PLAY

" SONO KOUTA YUMEMO YOSHIWARA "

( A Love Story of Shirai

Gompachi )

Written by Fukumori Kyusuke.

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To be presented by Ebizo, Shikan  
and Danshiro Troupe at Mitsukoshi  
Theatre from October 5th, 1947 :-



Synopsis:

Shirai Gonpachi falls in sleep in the palanquin on the way to see his sweetheart, Komurasaki at Yoshiwara and sees a dream of his own execution at Suzuga-Mori execution ground. As Komurasaki appears in his unpleasant dream, he hesitates to see her actually. However many people who are sent for him by Komurasaki bind him by her waist-band and draw him to her room.

The scene of the execution-ground at Suzuga-Mori.

All over the main stage is put up a bamboo palisade with several pine-trees in several places. For the setting, a black curtain. To the right, a high stage for Kiyomoto players. By the sound of bell and waves, curtain rises.

An officer of the magistrate stands. Before him, to the left, the head of pariah sits.

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Officer: Well, Denbei, as Shirai Gonpachi, who has troubled all citizens lately has been fixed to crime and is going to be crucified today, Mr. Yonezu and Otsuka will be here to assure it in a minute. Be courteous to them.

Denbei: Yes, sir. I told my men to be courtious already without your order.

Officer: That's good. Then let us go to the execution-ground together.  
(They retire from the right. At this moment Kiyomoto recital begins.)

KIYOMOTO:

"The glorious ages for a man is just like a flower season.

The days of glory for Shirai have passed away already,

And now an unexpected crime is settled on him.

Instead of the way to a gay quarter on glorious day,

He now is on the way to his death on a horse-back poorly dressed.

It's for love. For love's sake he is going to lost his own life.



(While this song is singing,  
come out two pariahs and two samurais,  
One of them with a paper banner  
and the other carrying a placard  
for written explanation of the crime,  
a pariah bearing a spear and an  
ostler leading the horse. On horse-  
back Shirai Gonpachi sits in prison  
clothes. After him two more pariahs  
and samurais attends. Five pariahs  
at the last in this party. )

KIYOMOTO: "How he wants to see her,  
but she is imprisoned like a  
bird in the cage,  
And their bounded love is;  
At this moment the stage is  
half revolved and the inside of the  
Suzuga-mori execution-ground appears,  
on all over the main stage.  
In the center, a big tombstone.  
On the left, several tools for  
execution and the back, bamboo  
palisade."

(Gonpachi is taken down from the  
horse and goes toward the stone.)

SONG: (Continues.)

"Only out to the world wide,  
to a gay quarter of Shinagawa.  
And now he has driven to Samezu,  
next stop to Shinagawa at last."

(Seeing that Gompachi sits on  
the straw-mat, Takenaka Muinosuke,  
Ishiwari Mandayu, right, come out  
in the center leading two retainers  
with long sticks in their hands  
and two foot-men.

They sit down on the camp-stools.)

Takenaka: Now/ Gompachi, you will be sentenced.

Ishiwari: Listen to the sentence.

Gompachi: Certainly, sir.

(Takenaka stands up and takes out a  
note.)

Take: Shirai Gompachi, twenty-five years  
old, the retainer of Arao Tajima-no-  
Kami, the lord of Tottori castle.  
You killed Honsho Sukedayu, a same  
retainer of your lord for your father's  
revenge secretly at Tottori, and later  
you again committed the same crimes of



murderer not only on two sons of Sokedayu but on so many citizens. More over you plundered the citizens of jewelry. Your offence is grave. You must be punished with crucification after drawn all over the city.

(He reads the note.)

- Gon: I accept your sentence with pleasure, for I know my crime better than all other people. I am worthy enough to be crucified.
- Take: At your last moment of life, have you not any words to leave?
- Ishi: Just a moment, Mr. Takenaka. Do you remember that he is a criminal and is about to be excutioned in a minute. It is too kind to give such a word to a cruel criminal like him.
- Take: Oh, don't stop me. The last words might teach them left and save himself by repentance. Save your words if you please.
- Gon: Thank you very much for your kind words. It's no use to you all, I know, but I would like to tell you about my past, please

listen to my sad confession. I, Shirai Gonpachi was born in Inaba state. When I was yet young I happened to kill a man for a reasonable cause. After that case I came down to this Edo as an outcast and happened to see the gay quarter and learned how to play on an occasion. Then I couldn't help to stop to go there. It made me poorer and poorer, and at last driven me into this dirty world from which I have been pulled out now. I envy you, all young men, around the bamboo palisade, and entreat you, at the same time, to offer up some prayers for the repose of my soul, after my crucification, as the warning of yourselves, when you might lost your way for love and wants like me. Though I lost my way once, I repent all my deed I have done, now, I swear to you. However sorry to say, there is no way left for me to alone for my crime, my great crime. Pity on me for my sins and pray for me.

SONG: While he is eager to warn the other  
by his confession:



Take: With those words from your heart your  
sins will be forgiven in the coming  
world.

Ishi: It's no use for him, even though he  
repent his sins since he committed  
some cruel murders.

SONG: "Komurasaki hastens to Suzugamori,  
escaping from her residence, in gay  
quarter to see her lover's death,  
and comes here at last."  
(Komurasaki comes out.)

Ko: Ah! Mr. Gonpachi.

Gon: Oh! You are here, my dear Komurasaki.

Ko: Ah! You are still alive, still-----

SONG: "Rushes against him unconsciously."  
(With the song she is about to run to  
his side, a samurai stops her with a  
six-feet long stic.)

Take: Well! Who are you?

Ko: I am a ----- in Yoshiwara -----.

Ishi: Well, then you are the -----? To whom  
Gonpachi made a love compact as they  
say. What a coquettish feature you  
have!

Ko: As you guess, my name is Komurasaki.

*Partially  
K.3  
G-2*

*Aluminum  
cage*

230845



Gon: Then, do you come here to see me off?

Ko: Yes, I am here ~~stealing~~ out of my room to see you while you are alive.

Gon: I am <sup>so</sup> glad to hear that for you love me so much.

Ko: Say, officers, I have something to ask you. Will you please give me a few minutes to exchange the cup for parting with Gonpachi by your sake.

Ishi: You wouldn't be allowed your wish.

Gon: Say, officers, I have something to ask you.

Take: What do you want?

Gon: I heard that only one wish would be granted at the last moment of crucification. ~~it~~ If it is true, will you please allow me to exchange the cup for parting.

Ko: I ask your favour, please.

Gon: Please allow our poor wishes.

Ko: I, too, ask you with him.

Gon: Me, too.

SONG: "As they ask ~~f~~ in tears, mercifull guardian can not help being moved."

Take: It can not be allowed in any other time,

but you **are** going to start to your eternal journey and as we have some more minutes for execution -----.

Ishi: However -----.

Take: Don't say anything any more, as it is the pity of his highness. There is a short time left for you, you may have it as you like.

Ko: Ah! you give me the time as I ask.

Gon: I thank you so much.

Both: We thank you very much.

SONG: "They takes their hands each other  
in full tears of joy, and  
Dip the dipper into the water in the pail,  
Asking the peace of coming world,  
and the bond of both lasts forever.  
Save us, the Saddharma Pundarika Sutra!  
(During above song is sang, Gonpachi and  
Komurasaki exchanges their dips for parting.)

SONG: "As Komurasaki cuts the bond of Gonpachi  
suddenly, as if she would try to cut  
the wandering cloud in the high,  
Shirai's hell is disappeared.  
It was only his dream, but



What a dreadful dream he'd dreamed.

Komurasaki cuts the bond of  
Gonpachi with her dagger. They all  
around are driven into great confusion  
and in a small struggle;)

-----Dark Change-----

The scene of Naka-no-cho, Yoshiwara.

The main, stage shows Naka-no-cho with the setting of distant view of a row of resting-houses and several cherry-trees. A palanquin is set in the center.

(Two palanquin-bearer, A & B stand wiping the perspiration by it.)

A: Now, you are here at Naka-no-cho, as you told. Say, Mr' Ah! he is asleep.

B: Then, we will be there at a resting-house untill they come to see him as usual.

A: And let's take a rest.

(Both of them go into the right.

Then Gonpachi comes out the palanquin rolling up the blind of it.

Gon: Well, was it a dream of nap in the swinging palanquin that Momurasaki saved me from the execution, at the very moment of it is executed. I hope it would not come true. But I can't help to be concerned about it. (He stands still.)

Waitress A: Well, well, everybody!



All: Come on!

(Seven waitresses an errand girl for the prostitute with a letter-box in her hand, three Buffoons and four maids of the resting-house come out gayly.)

Waitress A: Follow Mr! We come to see you.

All: Yes, we come.

Gon: Oh! Thank you, thank you.

Waitress B: As they say, once they met each other they must see the pain of parting, she feels a thousand days pass for an unseen night.

Waitress C: She said she felt.

" D: And waiting you eagerly now at her room.

" E: Hurry up to her room.

" F: And sit facing each other as usual.

Buffoon A: Sit facing each other and hold a feast changing cups intimately.

Buffoon B: And we appreciate some of them.

Buffoon C: And we drink them thankfully.

Buffoon D: And make you happy, with our joke after then ----.

Buffoon E: You may have a quiet talk as you wish.

All: Yes, you may ----

Gon: . Oh! What's in that letter-box in the errand girl's hand?

Maid A: A letter from/ her. In that letter ----

Maid B: She tells you her heart.

Maid C: The letter from her heart.

Maid D: Show it to him instantly.

E.G: Oh! Yes. Here is a letter for you, sir.

(She gives it to him.

They bind him with a waist band.)

Gon: Now, I recieved/ her letter certainly.

But as I have some business tonight ----.

waitress B: No, you must not go home now. If you are back -----.

" C: We have no words to say to her.

waitress A: Hurry up! You see.

All: Come on!

Gon: But I -----

(He is about to go and notices the bond.)

Gon: What's this for?

E.G/ : By her order -----

Gon: What is her order?

waitress A: That is, you come to see her every night even it's rainy or windy.



Waitress B: And as you look so handsome better  
than your gracefull heart.

" C: There rise great sensations among her  
companies who catch a glance of you.

" D: She is afraid of your fickleness.

" E: We, too, are anxious about her fear.

" F: So we bind you by her waistband.

" A: And, thus, we, by all -----

All: Draw you to her.

(Coming to the stage passage)

Gon: I can't drive away the dream, I've just  
dreamed.

All: What do you say?

Gon: Well, Umeno -----

A: Yes, let us go together ----

All: Come on -----

Gon: Oh!

(He opens the letter.

1st wooden clapper sounds.

With gay music they retire dancing.)

----- Curtain falls, -----